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PRESS RELEASE

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BORDER PATROL AGENTS SURVIVE OFF DUTY PLANE CRASH

San Diego, California: Two off duty Border Patrol Agents sustained injuries, but survived when the private plane they were flying crashed last night. At approximately 8 p.m. on December 11th, the Border Patrol BORSTAR Team, San Diego County Sheriff Search and Rescue, and San Diego Rural Fire Department were dispatched to search for a downed plane near the San Miguel Mountains. Facing dense fog, uneven terrain, and thick brush, the rescue crews were able to locate the agents after an hour. They were stabilized at the scene and airlifted to nearby hospitals.

The agents involved were identified as Alexander Levitin and Robert Volk, who have been on duty with the Border Patrol in San Diego since June of 1997. Robert Volk sustained a fractured ankle and is expected to undergo surgery for that injury today. Alexander Levitin fractured his ankle, fractured his pelvis and sustained internal injuries which he will also undergo surgery for today. Agent Levitin is still listed as being in the intensive care unit.